

North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Commission (Commission)
Implementation of the 2016 Disaster Recovery Program
Approved January 8, 2017

	Commission Actions
1	For Disaster Recovery Program, Commission approved the Division of Soil and Water Conservation (division) director to proceed with program direction as presented at the January 8, 2017 Commission meeting acknowledging program is still under development
2	For Disaster Recovery Program, Commission delegated authority to division director to provide oversight and management of program. The division will update the Commission on a regular basis with the Commission reserving right to interject changes in program direction.
3	For Disaster Recovery Program, Commission delegated authority to division director to address post approvals on a case by case basis. The division shall bring any denial for post approval to commission for final determinations.
4	<p>For Disaster Recovery Program's non-field farm road practice, Commission waived policy #2 thus allowing an existing road that is eroding $\leq 5T$ or not delivering sediment directly to a stream eligible for program.</p> <p>(Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) Agricultural Road Repair/Stabilization Policy #2 currently states the road must be an existing road eroding in excess of 5T or a segment of a road delivering sediment directly to a stream.)</p>
5	<p>For Disaster Recovery Program's non-field farm road practice, Commission relaxed district spot check requirement #7 with specific contract to be included in 5% random pull of contracts.</p> <p>(ACSP Agricultural Road Repair/Stabilization Policy #7 currently states the district shall inspect the site at least every two (2) years during the maintenance period.)</p>
6	<p>For Disaster Recovery Program's Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP) ponds & dams practice, Commission approved to double existing funding cap limits for the pond repair and engineering with any exception to be brought to the Commission of consideration. Program will pay 75% of actual cost (90% for beginning and limited resource farmer or participating in Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District) up to cap limit.</p> <p>(See existing funding cap limits at end of this document.)</p>
7	<p>For Disaster Recovery Program's AgWRAP ponds & dams practice, Commission relaxed conservation plan requirement to allow conservation plan to be developed within 12 months of contract approval</p> <p>(Current program policy in the Detailed Implementation Plan: All approved AgWRAP applications must have a completed conservation plan prior to contract approval or the district requesting design assistance from division engineering staff. The commission is requiring this plan, which is the cooperator's record of decisions, to help districts evaluate water supply resource concerns including inadequate water for livestock, inefficient water use for irrigation and/or inefficient moisture management. Conservation plans will ensure that alternative practices are considered and that the recommended practices address the identified resource concerns to maintain AgWRAP BMPs through their contract life.)</p>

8	For Disaster Recovery Program's AgWRAP pond repairs that are eligible for federal Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) funding, Commission approved the use of recovery funds to pay up to 75%/90% of the non-federal match not to exceed the AgWRAP disaster recovery program's funding cap limits and program authorities.
9	For the Disaster Recovery Program, the Commission delegated authority to division director to approve contracts for installed practices, on a case by case basis, that meet NRCS standards <u>and</u> were performed in immediate response to an eligible storm event, but prior to implementation of this program. All denials will be presented to the Commission for final determination.
10	<p>For the ACSP's cropland conversion practice, the Commission relaxed policy #8 to allow trees to be paid at 75%/90% of <u>actual</u> cost with receipts for the remainder of this program year as proposed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TREE-plant, hardwood---- 75%/90% of actual based on receipts • TREE-plant, loblolly and shortleaf pine ----75%/90% of actual based on receipts • TREE-plant, longleaf pine-----75%/90% of actual based on receipts <p>(ACSP Cropland Conversion to Trees policy #8 currently states that except for the conditions below, average costs for tree planting will be used. The average cost will be based on the lowest cost tree species that is suitable for the site. (e.g., if the site is suitable for establishing loblolly pines but the grower wishes to establish hardwoods, the cost share rate will be based on loblolly)).</p>

Components for the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWRAP)

Component	Unit Type	Unit Cost	Maximum Cost Share 75 Percent	Maximum Cost Share 90 Percent	Cost Type
AGRICULTURAL POND REPAIR/RETROFIT	Job	Cost Share percent of actual amount not to exceed	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	Actual
AGRICULTURAL POND REPAIR/RETROFIT - Engineering for embankment pond, low hazard	Job	Cost Share percent of actual amount not to exceed	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 9,000.00	Actual
AGRICULTURAL POND REPAIR/RETROFIT - Engineering for embankment pond, intermediate or high hazard	Job	Cost Share percent of actual amount not to exceed	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	Actual

For actual cost items, the payment is based on 75 or 90 percent of actual cost, not to exceed the established cost share cap. The cost share cap listed is the maximum amount of cost share reimbursement allowed for that component/BMP.